

PATENT APPLICATION Do. No. 5204-10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Seok-Hyun YUN, Byoung-Yoon KIM

Serial No.

09/473,450

Examiner:

G. Inzirillo

Filed:

December 28, 1999/

Group Art Unit:

2828

For:

WAVELENGTH-SWEPT LASER AND METHOD FOR ITS

OPERATION

Box Fee Non Fee Amendment

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,

Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This correspondence is responsive to the Office Action dated February 27, 2002.

PENDING CLAIMS

1. A wavelength-swept pulse laser, producing a mode-locked short pulsed output whose center wavelength continuously varies with time, comprising:

a resonator having an optical path including therein an optical gain medium capable of amplifying light over wide wavelength band, a wavelength tunable filter with minimum loss center wavelength range, and a non-linear medium with light intensity dependent refractive index;

an optical pump means for the population inversion of said optical gain medium; and

a filter modulation signal generating means for continuously varying the minimum loss center wavelength range of said wavelength tunable filter with time;

wherein the laser output is short mode-locked pulse type and its center wavelength varies continuously with time.